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INFORMATION REPORT
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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUBJECT Military Preparations in the Bucharest,
Constanta, Galati and Braila Areas

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Military preparations in the Bucharest, Constanta, Galati and Braila areas are as follows:

Bucharest Region

1. A Rumanian Air Force pilot training school has been established in a building which formerly housed a school for training commercial pilots. The building is located in the vicinity of the Popesti Leordeni airport and adjacent to the Apretura silk mill. The school's instructors are Soviet Air Force pilots.
2. Air raid shelters were dug in the vicinity of the Otopeni and Popesti Leordeni airports near Bucharest.
3. A Rumanian anti-aircraft battery is located in the northern part of Bucharest on a field between the Distributia firm's oil and gasoline depots and the Casa Scanteia (main office of the Scanteia newspaper).
4. A Rumanian anti-aircraft battery of approximately of ten guns is located near the railroad marshalling yards (gara de triaj) south of Chitila and west of the Bucharest-Chitila highway. The battery is on a small hill. Access to the area is prohibited to the public.
5. Very large air raid shelters were dug at depths of more than seven meters at locations in the vicinity of the Grivita Rosie workshops in the northern part of Bucharest as well as in front of the Sfantul Gheorghe Church in the center of Bucharest. Although both sites are surrounded by high wooden fences, it has become known that shelters were under construction from statements made by workers engaged on the projects.

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6. Rumanian troops are billeted in the buildings formerly occupied by the Theological Seminary and the Home for the Aged located in the vicinity of the Bragadiru Factory in Bucharest. Rumanian soldiers, in groups of one thousand depart from these buildings daily for drill outside the town.
7. Rumanian infantry troops are billeted in a barracks (formerly occupied by a gendarmerie regiment) located on the corner of Strada Stefan cel Mare and Strada Tunari in Bucharest.
8. Rumanian and Soviet troops are billeted in the barracks (formerly occupied by the 6 Regiment Mihai Viteazul) located on Splaiul Unirei in Bucharest. The Rumanian troops are attached to a unit of the Tudor Vladimirescu Division.
9. Regiments of the Horia Closca si Crisan Division are billeted in several barracks located in the Cotroceni area in Bucharest. Recently more Rumanian officers, wearing the insignia of the Tudor Vladimirescu and the Horia, Closca si Crisan Divisions, were seen in Bucharest.
10. On 1 May 1952, the Rumanian Army uniforms were changed so that they now are identical to those of the Soviet Army, with the exception of some insignia.
11. Recently, Soviet troops were encamped in the Raioasa forest located on the Chitila-Pitesti highway, approximately two kilometers north of the Chitila railroad station. The entire area, including the highway, was constantly patrolled by Rumanian guards who checked the documents and identity papers of all vehicles and pedestrians in the area.
12. In June, Soviet troops were encamped in the vicinity of the Pantelimon railroad station in Bucharest.
13. A high-ranking Soviet general arrived in Bucharest on 8 April 1952. Special security measures were taken by the Militia and the Security for the occasion. Reportedly, many "unreliable" persons were arrested but released three days later.
14. From March to May 1952, a larger than usual number of Soviet officers (sic) were seen in Bucharest. Soviet Air Force officers, believed by informant to be instructors for jet pilots, seemed to predominate.

Constanta Region

15. An airport is now under construction at Cocargea in the Constanta region. There are no details.
16. Soviet artillery batteries were installed by Soviet troops in the fall of 1951 on the hills overlooking the Silistra-Constanta highway and located in the areas of the Lipnita and Chiuvegea villages in the Dobrogea. At that time Soviet troops were also reported to have entered Bulgaria and the rumor was that a meeting took place in Bulgaria against the Soviet authorities. After a certain (unspecified) period of time, however, these batteries were dismantled and the Soviet troops returned to Constanta.

Galati Region

17. A Soviet artillery unit is billeted in the buildings formerly occupied by the Military Hospital located on Strada Traian in Galati. Guns, mainly antiaircraft guns, are emplaced in the vicinity of the former hospital.
18. No aerial activity was observed over Galati; however, at night during early June, the light of a searchlight emplaced on a hill across the Danube could be seen over the skies of the city.

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Braila Region

- 25X1 19. The Headquarters of Soviet Unit [] are billeted in a building formerly called Palatul Agriculturii located at the corner of Strada Karl Marx and Strada I.V. Stalin in Braila. This is a central unit which has under its direct command all Soviet supply units for the lower Danube region (Dunarea de Jos). One Cotencov a major in the Soviet Army [] was a member of this unit.
- 25X1 20. The Soviet Units [] are billeted in the barracks formerly occupied by a bridge (pontoon) engineer unit (Pontonieri). The barracks are located opposite the factory Industria Sarmei on the Lacul Sarat, - Braila highway. Other Soviet units are billeted in the barracks located on Strada Carentinei and in some private homes in the city.
21. Jet aircraft in groups of three and five as well as fast twin-engined propellor aircraft were observed flying over Braila by day and night. It was believed by informant that these planes were stationed at the recently completed Ianca airfield. Only barracks are still to be finished at the field.
22. In the Viitorul naval yards in Braila, four mine sweepers have been under construction since the Soviet troops entered Rumania. At the beginning of the spring of 1952, one of these four minesweepers was completed and taken by a Rumanian crew to Constanta where it was handed over to the Soviet Navy. The second minesweeper is scheduled to be completed during the summer of 1952. These vessels are equipped with two guns mounted at the bow and two at the stern. It is [] that the two remaining mine-sweepers were "cannibalized" to complete the above-mentioned vessels.
- 25X1 23. Two Rumanian armored river boats (monitoare) are being overhauled in the Viitorul naval yards in Braila.

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